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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 5, 1980 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 29, which included the Thanksgiving holiday, totaled an estimated 15.3 billion ton-miles, 18.5 percent below the corresponding non-holiday week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 48 weeks of 1980 was an estimated 847 billion ton-miles, 0.2 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 29 totaled 375,908 cars, 20.0 percent below 1979, and 18.3 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 15.3 percent in the East, 20.9 percent in the South, and 22.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding non-holiday week of 1979, all of the 21 commodity groups declined. Also, all of the groups were down from the preceding non-holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback revenue freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 22 totaled 33,303 cars, up 15.2 percent from the corresponding holiday week of 1979, and 60,369 trailers and/or containers, 19.9 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 47 weeks of the year was 1,513,793 cars, 10.4 percent lower than last year, and 2,749,568 trailers and/or containers, down 7.8 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/29/80:

	Loadings in Week ended November 29, 1980		Change from Corresponding Week 1979			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	23,140	D	10,937	32.1	D	9,989	30.2
Other farm products	5,506	D	1,234	18.3	D	1	0.0
Metallic ores	25,973	D	9,433	26.6	D	3,582	12.1
Coal	99,874	D	7,418	6.9	D	22,486	18.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,238	D	4,969	32.7	D	3,255	24.1
Nonmetallic minerals	10,984	D	4,622	29.6	D	2,210	16.8
Grain mill products	14,120	D	3,849	21.4	D	2,800	16.5
Food and kindred products	14,392	D	4,376	23.3	D	4,130	22.3
Primary forest products	14,675	D	6,476	30.6	D	5,151	26.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,718	D	2,292	22.9	D	1,744	18.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	19,075	D	3,115	14.0	D	1,172	5.8
Chemicals and allied products	25,183	D	4,221	14.4	D	2,305	8.4
Petroleum products	4,807	D	1,648	25.5	D	925	16.1
Stone, clay and glass products	12,398	D	5,078	29.1	D	3,001	19.5
Coke	5,561	D	751	11.9	D	389	6.5
Metals and products	14,901	D	3,672	19.8	D	1,555	9.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,775	D	4,536	23.5	D	4,361	22.8
Waste and scrap materials	10,699	D	2,169	16.9	D	2,859	21.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,522	D	3,140	26.9	D	2,650	23.7
All other carloads	33,143	D	10,003	23.2	D	9,511	22.3
LCL traffic	224	D	128	36.4	D	17	7.1
Total Cars Loaded	375,908	D	94,067	20.0	D	84,093	18.3
Corresponding week of 1979	469,975						

	1980	1979	%	Change
Total Cars Loaded (48 weeks)	20,959,838	22,170,977	D	5.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
47 weeks cumulative	831.7	826.5	I	0.6
Week ended November 29	15.3	18.7	D	18.5
48 weeks cumulative	846.9	845.3	I	0.2

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